

From: [Smith, Monica](#)
To: [Gray, David](#); [Petersen, Chris](#); [Edlund, Carl](#); [Phillips, Pam](#); [Crossland, Ronnie](#); [Taheri, Diane](#); [Webster, Susan](#); [McQuiddy, David](#); [Ruhl, Christopher](#); [Matthiessen, Craig](#); [Jennings, Kim](#); [Belke, Jim](#); [Mason, Steve](#)
Subject: RE: Chemical Safety Board Public Meeting on west Fertilizer Explosion
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 8:02:54 AM

Meeting went well. Brief statements from the CSB investigators and the Panel members. Only 5 comments from the public were presented, all in support of fixing regulations, fire codes, using safer technologies and safer chemicals, etc so it doesn't happen again .

- One individual, suggested that in lieu of fixing regulations which would impact the distributors such as West Fertilizer, there should be regulations on the manufacturers.
- Another commenter mentioned the transportation issue. While we were in the meeting at least 3 trains passed by. The commenter stated that the trains sit on the tracks at the switch area nearby and is concerned that these trains could be loaded with chemicals which are harmful including AN or radioactive sources.

One of lessons learned as stated by the Emergency Planning and Response Panel members was that site specific pre-incident planning needs to occur so the local responders are aware of what hazards are located in the facilities within their response areas. One of CSB's points was that the volunteers did not have proper training to know when to just let the fire burn as was done in El Dorado (Bryan Texas 7/30/2009). The panel and investigators compared the responses at El Dorado to the West Fertilizer response and noted that the responders at El Dorado responded in 24 minutes. The responders in West only had 20 minutes after the 911 call before the explosion, the investigators concluded if they had been trained and knew about the AN, they may have been able to back away and let the facility burn with losing lives.

The Texas Fire Marshal stated that they are going around to 66 counties in Texas talking about best practices in addressing AN. He said the sessions have been well received. He said the locals are sharing their experience and providing input to the best practices.

CSB hopes to have the final report out by the end of 2014.

Quite a bit of media present.

If you need any additional information, please me know. Thanks - Monica

Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 7:16 AM
To: Smith, Monica; Petersen, Chris; Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Crossland, Ronnie; Taheri, Diane; Webster, Susan; McQuiddy, David; Ruhl, Christopher; Matthiessen, Craig; Jennings, Kim
Subject: RE: Chemical Safety Board Public Meeting on west Fertilizer Explosion
[How did it go?](#)

From: Smith, Monica

Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2014 5:14 PM

To: Petersen, Chris; Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Crossland, Ronnie; Gray, David; Taheri, Diane; Webster, Susan; McQuiddy, David; Ruhl, Christopher; Matthiessen, Craig; Jennings, Kim

Subject: Chemical Safety Board Public Meeting on west Fertilizer Explosion

Mark Hayes and I are in West attending the meeting. I am attaching the agenda for the meeting.

Thus far Fox news, nbc ,cbs , and univision are on site.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.